

# State of North Carolina



MICHAEL F. EASLEY  
GOVERNOR

## PARKINSON'S DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH

2008

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

### A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Parkinson's Disease is a progressive neurological disorder that affects people of all ages with the average age of onset being 60, and 15% of those are diagnosed before age 50; and

WHEREAS, according to the Carolinas Medical Center, Parkinson's Disease & Movement Disorders Clinic, approximately 20,000 individuals are seeking treatment for Parkinson's in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, more individuals suffer from Parkinson's Disease than Multiple Sclerosis, Muscular Dystrophy and Lou Gehrig's Disease combined; and

WHEREAS, the symptoms of Parkinson's Disease - tremor, rigidity, slowness, poor movement, and difficulty with balance and speaking are often mistaken for other conditions, especially in the younger adult or as a normal part of the aging process; and

WHEREAS, Parkinson's disease takes an enormous emotional, psychological and physical toll on those with the disease and a similar toll on caregivers, families and friends of the patients of the disease; and

WHEREAS, anti-Parkinsonian drugs can only control some of the symptoms of Parkinson's Disease for a short period of time, and in many cases cause disabling side effects; and

WHEREAS, surgical procedures likewise offer only temporary lessening of certain symptoms and are not a substitute for drugs; and

WHEREAS, the cause(s), prevention(s) or cure(s) of Parkinson's Disease are still not known; and

WHEREAS, increased education and research are needed to help find more effective treatments and ultimately a cure for Parkinson's Disease and to provide more effective support programs and services to Parkinson's Disease patients, their caregivers and families; and

WHEREAS, April has been proclaimed as World Wide Parkinson's Awareness Month for all to recognize the need for more research and help in dealing with the devastating effects of Parkinson's Disease;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL F. EASLEY, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 2008, as "PARKINSON'S DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH" in North Carolina and urge our citizens to commend its observance.



  
MICHAEL F. EASLEY

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this twenty-fifth day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand and eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-second.